



Foreign Policy -- Defense -- Documents on the web -- January 2009

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS:

THE WHITE HOUSE AGENDA: FOREIGN POLICY

http://www.whitehouse.gov/agenda/foreign_policy/

President Obama and Vice President Biden will work to renew America's security and standing in the world through a new era of American leadership. The Obama-Biden foreign policy pledges to end the war in Iraq responsibly, finish the fight against the Taliban and al Qaeda in Afghanistan, secure nuclear weapons and nuclear materials from terrorists, and renew American diplomacy to support strong alliances and to seek a lasting peace in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

THE WHITE HOUSE AGENDA: IRAQ

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/agenda/iraq/>

President Obama and Vice President Biden pledge to responsibly end the war in Iraq so that the United States can renew its military strength, dedicate more resources to the fight against the Taliban and al Qaeda in Afghanistan, and invest in its economy at home. The Obama-Biden plan will help the U.S. succeed in Iraq by transitioning to Iraqi control of their country.

THE WHITE HOUSE AGENDA: DEFENSE

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/agenda/defense/>

President Obama and Vice President Biden plan to invest in a 21st century military to maintain the United States' conventional advantage while increasing its capacity to defeat the threats of tomorrow. They pledge to ensure U.S. troops have the training, equipment and support that they need when they are deployed. Main objectives include: invest in a 21st century military; build defense capabilities for the 21st century; restore the readiness of the National Guard and Reserves; develop Government initiatives to promote global stability; restore U.S. alliances; and reform contracting.

THE WHITE HOUSE: HOMELAND SECURITY

http://www.whitehouse.gov/agenda/homeland_security/

President Obama and Vice President Joe Biden's strategy for securing the homeland against 21st century threats is focused on preventing terrorist attacks on the U.S. homeland, preparing and planning for emergencies and investing in strong response and recovery capabilities. Obama and Biden pledge to strengthen the homeland against all hazards -- including natural or accidental disasters and terrorist threats -- and ensure that the federal government works with states, localities, and the private sector as a true partner in prevention, mitigation, and response.

THREE EXECUTIVE ORDERS ISSUED BY PRESIDENT OBAMA:

Review and disposition of individuals detained at the Guantánamo bay naval base and closure of detention facilities

http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/ClosureOfGuantanamoDetentionFacilities/

Review of detention policy options

http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/ReviewofDetentionPolicyOptions/

Ensuring lawful interrogations

http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/EnsuringLawfulInterrogations/

SECRETARY CLINTON TALKS ABOUT FOREIGN POLICY AND DIPLOMACY

Secretary Clinton. January 27, 2009.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/01/115450.htm>

Remarks with reporters in the Correspondents' Room.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL ENVOY FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

Secretary Clinton, Mr. Stern. January 26, 2009.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/01/115409.htm>

Secretary Clinton Announces Appointment of Special Envoy for Climate Change Todd Stern.

SETTING FORTH A CLEAR PATH FOR USAID TO REGAIN A GLOBAL LEADERSHIP ROLE IN DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

Secretary Clinton. January 23, 2009.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/01/115325.htm>

In this address to the U.S. Agency for International Development Employees, Secretary Clinton calls for strengthening international development efforts.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL ENVOY FOR THE MIDDLE EAST AND
SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN

President Obama, Secretary Clinton, Vice President Biden, Senator Mitchell,
Ambassador Holbrooke. January 22, 2009.

Please write to the address below to receive the full text of this announcement:

IRCFrance@state.gov

President Obama and Secretary Clinton with Vice President Joe Biden announce
Appointment of Special Envoy for Middle East Peace George Mitchell and Special
Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan Richard Holbrooke.

SECRETARY CLINTON DELIVERS WELCOME ADDRESS AT U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State. January 22, 2009.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/01/115262.htm>

Secretary Clinton's remarks to Department Employees.

NOMINATION HEARING TO BE SECRETARY OF STATE

Hillary Rodham Clinton, Senate Foreign Relations Committee. January 13, 2009

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/01/115196.htm>

Full text of the Hearing of the Honorable Hillary R. Clinton, to be Secretary of State,
before the Committee on Foreign Relations, United States Senate, One hundred
eleventh Congress, first session. This document outlines the three parts of the hearing:
the introduction speeches by Senator Kerry, Senator Lugar, Senator Dodd, Senator
Schumer; the prepared statement by Secretary-designate Clinton; and the interview of
Secretary-designate Clinton by the Committee.

DEFENSE BUDGET MATERIALS -- FY 2009

Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller). Department of Defense.

<http://www.defenselink.mil/comptroller/defbudget/fy2009/index.html>

This document outlines several reports about summary justification materials, press
releases, links to budget materials, and global war on terror funding.

MEASURING STABILITY AND SECURITY IN IRAQ: DECEMBER 2008, REPORT TO
CONGRESS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SUPPLEMENTAL
APPROPRIATIONS ACT 2008 (Section 9204, Public Law 110 -- 252)

Department of Defense. January 9, 2009. 68 pages.

http://www.defenselink.mil/pubs/pdfs/9010_Report_to_Congress_Dec_08.pdf

The goal of the strategic partnership between the United States and Iraq remains a
unified, democratic, and federal Iraq that can govern, defend, and sustain itself and is an
ally in the war on terror. The United States is pursuing this goal along political, security,
economic, diplomatic, and rule of law lines of operation. This report measures progress

toward achieving this goal during September through November 2008 and highlights the challenges to Iraqi and Coalition efforts to achieve their mutual objectives.

THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMISSION ON THE STRATEGIC POSTURE OF THE U.S.

Facilitated by the United States Institute of Peace. December 15, 2008.

http://www.usip.org/strategic_posture/sprc_interim_report.html

Pursuant to the responsibilities assigned to it in the FY08 National Defense Authorization Act, the Congressional Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States began its work in spring 2008. The Commission was chartered to provide findings, conclusions, and recommendations. At this time it would be premature to offer recommendations. Rather, the Commission's purpose with this interim report is to review briefly the progress of its efforts and to offer interim findings on some of the relevant issues. The positions expressed in this document solely represent the views and findings of the Congressional Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States.

FISCAL YEAR 2008 AGENCY FINANCIAL REPORT

Department of Defense. November 17, 2008. 152 pages.

[http://www.defenselink.mil/comptroller/afr/fy2008/Fiscal Year 2008 Department of Defense Agency Wide Financial Statements and Notes.pdf](http://www.defenselink.mil/comptroller/afr/fy2008/Fiscal_Year_2008_Department_of_Defense_Agency_Wide_Financial_Statements_and_Notes.pdf)

The Department of Defense (DoD) Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 Agency Financial Report provides the President, Congress, other federal departments and agencies, and the American public an overview of the Department's financial condition. This report compares to the private sector's annual report to stockholders. This approach is intended to improve performance reporting by presenting it in a more accessible and informative format, and provide more complete performance information given the additional time to collect actual year-end performance data.

GLOBAL TRENDS 2025: A TRANSFORMED WORLD

National Intelligence Council. November 2008. 120 pages.

http://www.dni.gov/nic/PDF_2025/2025_Global_Trends_Final_Report.pdf

"Global Trends 2025: A Transformed World" is the fourth unclassified report prepared by the National Intelligence Council (NIC) in recent years that takes a long-term view of the future. It offers a fresh look at how key global trends might develop over the next 15 years to influence world events. The project's primary goal is to provide U.S. policymakers with a view of how world developments could evolve, identifying opportunities and potentially negative developments that might warrant policy action. The authors also hope this paper stimulates a broader discussion of value to educational and policy institutions at home and abroad.

BUILDING LANGUAGE SKILLS AND CULTURAL COMPETENCIES IN THE MILITARY: DOD'S CHALLENGE IN TODAY'S EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

U.S. House of Representatives -- Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations. November 2008. 123 pages.

<http://armedservices.house.gov/pdfs/Reports/LanguageCultureReportNov08.pdf>

There is no doubt that foreign language skills and cultural expertise are critical capabilities needed by today's military to face the challenges of our present security environment. But only a small part of today's military is proficient in a foreign language and until recently there has been no comprehensive, systematic approach to develop cultural expertise. Today's military establishment must be trained and ready to engage the world with an appreciation of diverse cultures and to communicate directly with local populations.

THINK TANKS AND RESEARCH CENTERS:

The opinions expressed in these publications do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government

THE OBAMA ORDERS: A QUICK AND DIRTY ANALYSIS

By Benjamin Wittes. Brookings Institution. January 22, 2009.

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2009/0122_guantanamo_wittes.aspx

This article is about three major executive orders issued by President Obama, dealing with detention, interrogation and Guantanamo. The author's purpose is to explain what these orders do and do not do, and what issues they leave open.

CLOSING GUANTANAMO, RESTORING AMERICAN VALUES

By Ken Jude. Center for American Progress. January 22, 2009.

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2009/01/closing_guantanamo.html

President Obama announced that Guantanamo would be closed, the secret CIA prisons would be shut down, and torture and other "enhanced interrogation techniques" would be prohibited. The author of this article explains why he thinks it was the right thing to do.

EUROPE, THE UNITED STATES, AND MIDDLE EASTERN DEMOCRACY: REPAIRING THE BREACH

By Tamara Cofman Wittes and Richard Youngs. The Saban Center for Middle East Policy. Brookings Institution. January 18, 2009. 34 pages.

http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2009/~media/Files/rc/papers/2009/01_middle_eastern_democracy_wittes/01_middle_eastern_democracy_wittes.pdf

Tensions between the United States and the European Union since the 2003 war in Iraq affected many arenas of Middle East policy, but perhaps none has come to symbolize

those tensions as much as the quest to advance democracy in the region. This paper looks beyond the highly charged, Iraq-related deterioration in the transatlantic relationship in order to assess the real similarities and differences in the two actors' democracy promotion strategies in the Middle East.

PREDICTING PROLIFERATION: THE HISTORY OF THE FUTURE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS
By Moeed Yusuf, Fellow, Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future, Boston University. Brookings Institution. January 12, 2009. 86 pages.

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2009/01_nuclear_proliferation_yusuf/01_nuclear_proliferation_yusuf.pdf

This study offers a brief survey of attempts to predict the future of nuclear weapons since the beginning of the Cold War. Its aim is not merely to review the record, but to provide an overall sense of how the nuclear future was perceived over the past six decades, and where and why errors were made in prediction, so that contemporary and future predictive efforts have the benefit of a clearer historical record. The survey is based on U.S. intelligence estimates as well as the voluminous scholarly work of American and foreign experts on the subject.

REVERSING THE DECLINE: AN AGENDA FOR U.S.-RUSSIAN RELATIONS IN 2009

By Steven Pifer. Brookings Institutions. January 20, 2009. 38 pages.

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2009/01_us_russia_relations_pifer/01_us_russia_relations_pifer.pdf

As the Bush administration comes to a close, U.S.-Russian relations have fallen to their lowest level since the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991. Unresolved and problematic issues dominate the agenda, little confidence exists between Washington and Moscow, and the shrill tone of official rhetoric approaches that of the Cold War. This paper reviews how U.S.-Russian relations went off course. It looks at what Moscow wants, offers policy recommendations for the Obama administration and concludes with suggestions on tactics and a notional calendar for engaging Russia in 2009.

THE LESSONS OF MUMBAI

By Angel Rabasa et al. RAND, National Security Research Division. January 9, 2009. 37 pages.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/occasional_papers/2009/RAND_OP249.pdf

This study of the Mumbai terrorist attack of November 2008 is part of the RAND Corporation Occasional Papers series. It identifies the operational and tactical features and technical capabilities displayed by the terrorists, the extent to which the means employed in the attack were innovations or build on previous experiences, evaluates the response of the Indian security forces, draws out the implications of the incident for India, Pakistan, and the international community, derives the lessons learned from the attack and the Indian response. The goal of the study is to develop findings that may be

helpful to counterterrorism authorities in India and elsewhere in preparing for, or countering, future terrorist attacks on urban centers.

FATA -- A MOST DANGEROUS PLACE: MEETING THE CHALLENGE OF MILITANCY AND TERROR IN THE FEDERALLY ADMINISTERED TRIBAL AREAS OF PAKISTAN

By Shuja Nawaz. Center for Strategic and International Studies. January 7, 2009. 57 pages.

http://www.csis.org/media/isis/pubs/081218_nawaz_fata_web.pdf

Increased militancy and violence in the border region between Afghanistan and Pakistan known as the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) of Pakistan has brought the region into sharper focus, as U.S., Afghan, and Pakistani leaders attempt to find solutions to the problems underlying the situation there. This most dangerous spot on the map may well be the source of another 9/11 type of attack on the Western world or its surrogates in the region. This report attempts to define the conditions that spawn militancy and violence among the Pashtun tribesmen that inhabit FATA and suggest practicable ways of approaching them in the short and medium term.

THE FIGHTING IN GAZA: HOW DOES IT END? (AND WILL IT?)

By Anthony H. Cordesman. Center for Strategic and International Studies. January 5, 2009. 4 pages.

http://www.csis.org/media/isis/pubs/090105_cordesman_gaza-how_does_it_end.pdf

In this paper, the author speculates whether the recent fighting in Gaza and the casualties and damages on both sides can have any meaningful strategic outcome, but also if it will simply be another peak of violence in a continuing process of conflict or if it can lead towards some form of stable result.

UNDERSTANDING IRAN

By Jerrold D. Green, Frederic Wehrey, Charles Wolff, Jr. Prepared for the Smith Richardson Foundation. RAND, National Security Research Division. January 2009. 167 pages.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2008/RAND_MG771.pdf

The United States has been working predominantly in the dark with respect to the Islamic Republic of Iran. All interested players suffer from America's collective ignorance about this uniquely complex country. This ignorance stems from Iran's denial of sustained physical access to American visitors, but also from America's lack of access to and insight into the workings of the Iranian system itself. This gap is what the project reported on in this monograph addresses. This document is a short, accessible guide intended to help U.S. policymakers understand the Islamic Republic. It offers a set of short analytic observations about the processes, institutions, networks, and actors that define Iran's politics, strategy, economic policy, and diplomacy. From these, it sets out an argument for appreciating the challenges and fundamentals of negotiating with Iran.

BUILDING A MILITARY FOR THE 21st CENTURY: NEW REALITIES, NEW PRIORITIES

By Lawrence J. Korb, Peter Juul, Laura Conley, MAJ Myles B. Caggins III, Sean Duggan.
Center for American Progress. December 10, 2008. 70 pages.

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2008/12/pdf/military_priorities.pdf

The new administration will have the opportunity to manage a significant realignment of U.S. defense and national security priorities. Today's security imperatives and budgetary realities will require it to make hard decisions and difficult trade-offs on competing visions of the military and its role in implementing national security strategy, which will have wide-ranging consequences for the size and structure of the force. Inheriting a vastly different military than the one bequeathed to President George W. Bush in 2001 but also a defense budget that is increasingly out of control, the new administration will first have to evaluate the current state of the military, examine the current composition of the Defense budget, and define the threats, challenges, and role of the U.S. military in the 21st century.

EVALUATING IRAQ'S PROVINCIAL RECONSTRUCTION TEAMS WHILE DRAWDOWN LOOMS: A USIP TRIP REPORT

By Rusty Barber and Sam Parker. United States Institute of Peace. December 2008. 25 pages.

<http://63.104.169.51/articles/1012009.1008/1.PDF>

Two USIP specialists recently traveled to Iraq to examine the effectiveness of Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs). Their primary findings were that PRTs play a critical role in facilitating the expenditure of Iraqi funds on Iraqi reconstruction and development. Moreover, the PRTs perform a range of secondary tasks that contribute greatly to the U.S. civilian-military effort in Iraq. PRTs face a number of administrative and security-related challenges however (despite improvement in certain areas) and are also engaged in a number of long-term development activities to which they are poorly suited. This ISIPeaceBriefing describes the effort.

U.S. WEAPONS AT WAR 2008: BEYOND THE BUSH LEGACY

By William D. Hartung, Frida Berrigan. New American Foundation. December 2008.

http://www.newamerica.net/publications/policy/u_s_weapons_war_2008

The United States is the world's leading arms exporting nation, accounting for over 45 percent of all weapons transferred globally in 2007. As the Bush administration enters its final weeks in office, it is a good time to reassess current U.S. arms transfer policies and practices to determine whether such important issues as human rights and conflict prevention are being given adequate consideration in determining who gets what weaponry from the United States. While the sheer volume of U.S. arms transfers is a matter of concern, the real question is how these weapons end up being used.

FROM PREPONDERANCE TO PARTNERSHIP: AMERICAN MARITIME POWER IN THE 21st CENTURY

By Frank Hoffman. Center for a New American Security. November 10, 2008. 32 pages.
http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/publications/Hoffman_FromPreponderanceToPartnership_November2008_0.pdf

One of the most important national security challenges facing the new President of the United States will be preserving America's maritime power. The first section of this report provides a detailed review of the latest national maritime strategy which reflects an acute appreciation for new parameters in the security environment and their potential impact on the country's interests. The second section of this report details the current naval fleet and shipbuilding architecture. This section concludes with a synthesis of these competing designs, and an argument for why this particular fleet better matches the sustainable grand strategy offered in the first section. The report concludes with a few general recommendations.

PEAK OIL: A SURVEY OF SECURITY CONCERNS

By Neil King, Jr. Center for a New American Security. September 15, 2008. 18 pages.
http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/publications/CNAS_Working%20Paper_PeakOil_King_Sept2008.pdf

While the concept of "peak-oil," the notion that the world is running out of oil, remains controversial, it is certainly realistic to think ahead about the national security and foreign policy consequences of a world in which there is not enough oil supply to meet demand. In this CNAS working paper, Wall Street Journal reporter Neil King, Jr. addresses the issue.